

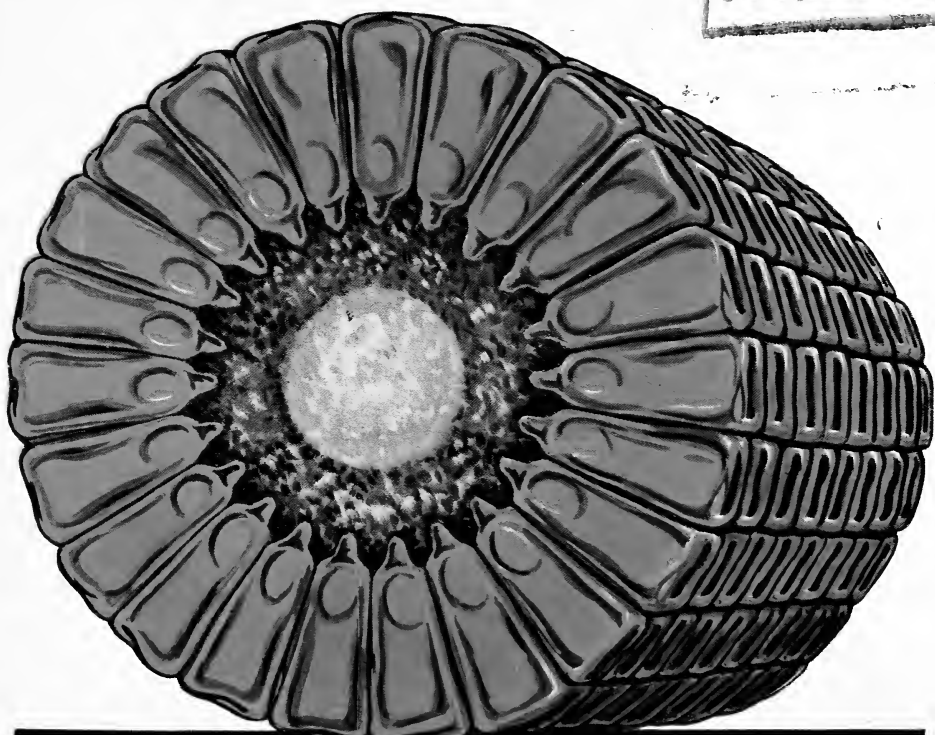
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# PETTY'S

PURE BRED SEED CORN  
AND FIELD SEEDS

J. H. PETTY, SEEDMAN, ELLIOTT, IOWA

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 26TH SEASON - 1928 ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~



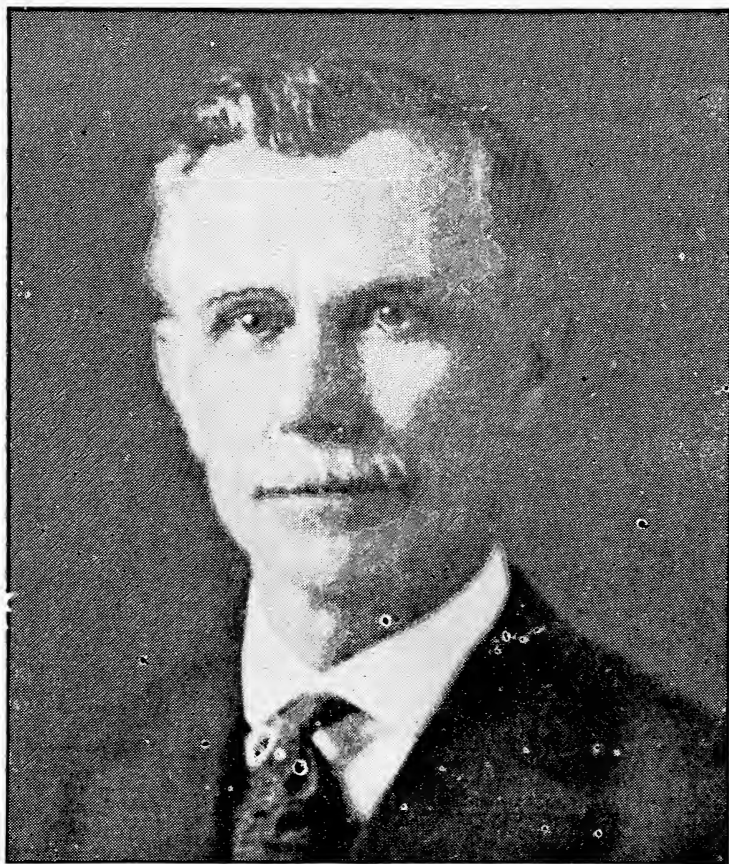
## MY GUARANTEE



ANY seed you order from me that is not precisely what I say it is, you may return to me and get your money back. I give you 10 days' time to examine and test my seed corn and field seeds. I pay the freight both ways. I don't guarantee a crop. My responsibility ends with your acceptance of my seeds. I want you to feel as free about buying seeds from me by mail as you would if you came to see me personally.

J. H. PETTY,  
Elliott, Iowa.

## My Greeting



**A**S many of you already know, we have been promoting an enterprise in our community for a number of years, and by referring to our records we find it has been twenty-six years, over a quarter century, since we launched the industry of developing a better grade of seed corn for our community. Beginning on a small scale and striving each year to make some progress, we feel that we are justified in saying that results have reached our expectations. Anyone who puts his best into an enterprise hopes to see it grow and develop, but my business has not reached such proportions that I cannot give to each detail my personal supervision, and can yet adhere to my original motto. "QUALITY NOT QUANTITY."

Yours truly,

J. H. PETTY

# Announcement

**T**wenty-six years ago when farm land in Southwestern Iowa was selling from \$45 to \$50 per acre with every indication of greater advancement, it was evident to me something must be done to increase production. Having given the corn question careful study, it being our main crop, it seemed necessary that something should be done to improve the quality and increase the yield. With this thought in mind I took as my motto: "QUALITY NOT QUANTITY," which I have kept ever since.

At this time I was active in the hardware business and for the first few years, had the seed business as a side line. To create interest along the lines of building up the corn industry I began by holding corn contests each fall giving out premiums from my hardware store. These contests were kept up by me for ten years. This proved to me what could be done, by careful selection of seed and planting it separate. The results were so visible after adopting this principal I determined to keep at this until varieties of corn were produced that would yield more per acre and be improved in quality. This I am glad to say has been accomplished beyond my expectations. If you will read what some of my home farmers say about this seed it will stimulate your faith. Here is one of the first statements that I made, "This is a home enterprise, and if I cannot sell my home customers and help them first to see the benefit of improved seed, I would not solicit outside patronage. Today my home customers are my big customers". This is a recognized fact, and some of the best farmers in Iowa receive their mail at Elliott, Iowa. I refer you to any farmer in this or adjoining counties, and ask you to read a few of the testimonials printed which are all genuine and I could give you many more. I prefer to let them talk to you for what they have said has caused me to send seed into Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, and Illinois. If I have a dissatisfied customer he must be very quiet for I never hear from him. If interested in more bushels on less acres, I will be glad to hear from you.

J. H PETTY

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Hopley Stock Farm, Atlantic, Iowa, Dec. 24, 1926

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa,

My dear Mr. Petty:—If my memory serves me right, it is about twelve years since I began buying my seed corn from you. From a few bushels up to forty bushels or more the last few years. I think that possibly this year was the best demonstration that we have had of the value of good dependable seed, on my hill land with your white corn the first we have ever planted we picked better than fifty bushels while on the bottom lands the yellow made over seventy. We have just finished picking, this week and we picked over thirty thousand bushels, every bushel grown from your seed. With kind regards, I am

Yours very truly,

HARRY HOPLEY

# How My Corn Is Grown

FOR the last ten years I have selected all the corn that is sent out to grow seed for me. Single ear test every ear. This method has been followed each year and has proven to me that careful selection of seed and single ear test every ear of corn that goes out to grow seed for the next year is the way to eliminate weakness and is as near disease proof as it is possible to make it. So many of my customers speak of how strong the seed is and they always get good stands and the corn matures much earlier and give them so much better yields. Read some of these testimonies from some of the best farmers in Iowa and see what they have to say—these men who have been users for several years.

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## Gathering The Seed

EARLY in the fall, before frost, I take my force of men to the field, using two men for each wagon making a down row every 40 rows, taking 20 on each side of wagon. Each man, with sack on shoulder, works back and forth, selecting nothing but the best ears which are best matured and from the best stalks in the field. This has been done every year, and I know from experience that this is the way to produce a larger corn that matures earlier by 10 to 15 days than to allow it to ripen in the field and take it out at husking time. This gives me a chance to get all the earliest matured corn and doing this year after year, causes me to be able to give you a large corn, well matured, which means more bushels of better corn for those who buy my seed corn.

Remember, I do not gather just enough of corn from fields early so that I can advertise early picked seed. If you will visit my seed room here in Elliott, I can show you my entire stock that was picked early and hung up, and this is what you get when you buy of me.

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Griswold, Iowa

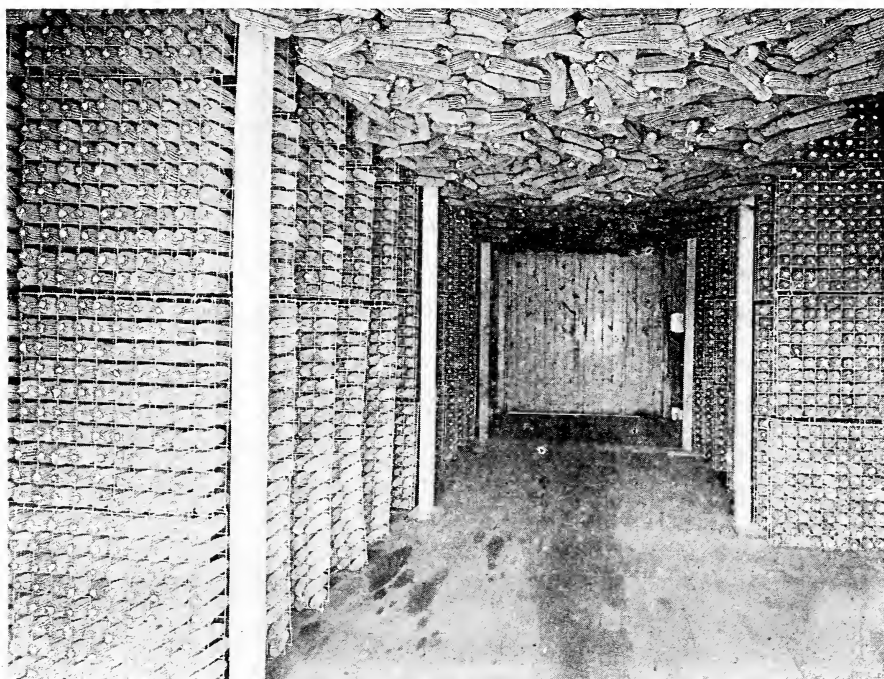
J. H. Petty, Elliott

Dear Sir:—For the last ten years I have been buying Seed Corn of you, and in those ten years, I have been paying special attention to what you have been doing for the farmers that have been using your seed, in the way of producing a better quality of corn, and a much larger yield per acre. As a breeder of Purebred Duroc Jersey hogs, I have found out by experience, that it does not pay to grow anything but the best. In conclusion, I want to congratulate you for what you have done in the past in producing good seed and hoping you will continue along the same line, I remain

Yours truly,

O. S. MUNDORF

## Drying The Seed



**M**Y fields are all close so that everyone who gathers seed for me early from fields in sacks can bring his corn in every night and it is placed on drying floor where air can pass through under it, scattered out or hung same day if possible, never allowing it to pile up. I use the Martin hanger in my seed house and have never found any thing better. Windows and doors always open as the out door air is the best for drying. In damp weather the building is closed tight and stoves are running to dry the air. In cold weather you will always find fire in my seed house. About February 1 the corn is taken down from racks and a general test is made. This makes five times ear by ear this corn is handled by hand. Each time on the lookout for weakness and low type which is not up to my standard. This rejected corn always thrown into a feed bin and sold for feed. You will hear about mouldy corn this spring which should be discarded. The stronger the seed and the quicker it was dried out the less mould. Every precaution has been taken. I used Semesan on seed when planted and will use it again this year on my seed plots. These are some of the reasons why my seed corn cannot compete in price with corn gathered at husking time.



## Testing The Seed

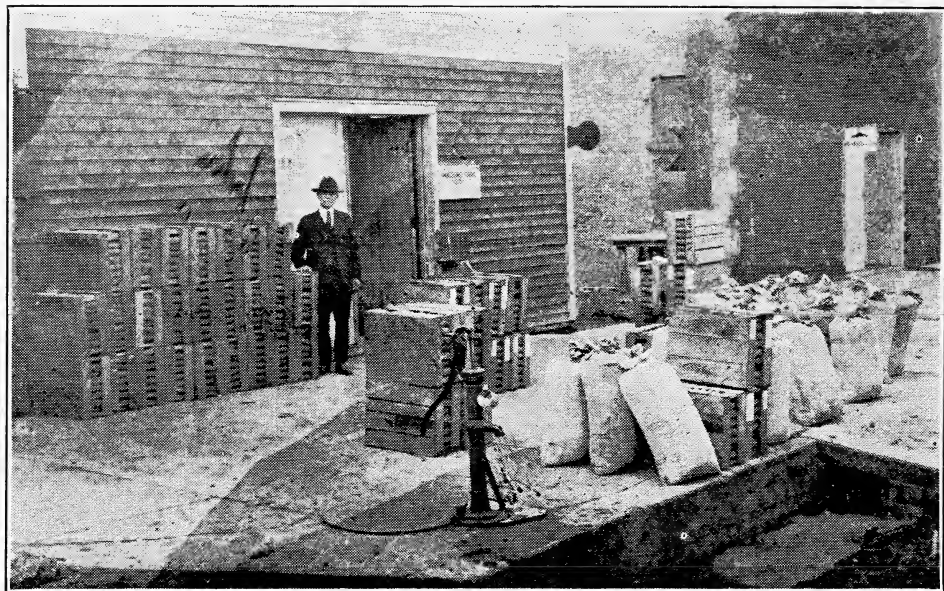


GENERAL TESTS OF ALL CORN MADE BEFORE IT IS SENT OUT.

"WE KNOW IT WILL GROW BEFORE WE LET IT GO."

To fully appreciate our Seed Corn you should see it in the Seed House. See our method of sorting, handling and drying, with fire kept in the house whenever weather is below zero. Then comes taking down, another sorting, discarding every ear that we think is running our type down. If shelled, the butts and tips are taken off by hand. This makes five times to handle with the hands, not scoop shovel, and every time, we are on the lookout for the low yielder, which is thrown into the feed bin. I can truthfully say that I have cut everything except quality, to make you the price I have for 1928 seed. Just hope you will appreciate this and give me your order as early as possible. I think you should have a chance to know how some of our best farmers, right here at home talk "Petty's yield more and better corn." I could furnish you many testimonials. What others have done, you can do.

## Shipping Out



**H**ERE is where the doubt is removed. Corn after general tests are made is taken down where the sorting is carefully done by handling each ear of corn the fifth time by hand, taking off the butts and tips if wanted shelled, watching out for ears that are not up to my standard which are thrown into feed bin and sold for feed. Above picture is one day's shipment from my seed house.

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Elliott, Iowa, January 22, 1927.

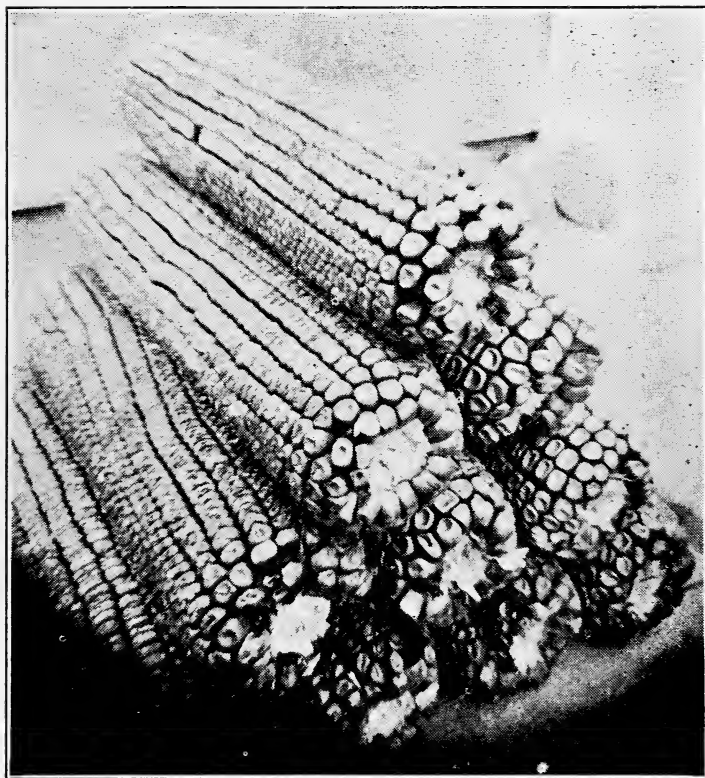
To Whom It May Concern:

We wish to say a word of commendation for the good work Mr. J. H. Petty has done for this community in the breeding of high type seed corn. He has been engaged in this business for many years and, by hard work and careful study, has built up a type of corn that has increased the yield in this vicinity to a very large extent, thus type of corn that the farmer, and ourselves indirectly. Mr. Petty is thoroughly reliable and, not only willing but anxious to make any guarantee he may have covering his seed corn. It is absolutely necessary that our land be made to produce more per acre, to maintain and advance the price of farms, and no one thing is of more importance in the increase of production, than the best of seed. Respectfully,

C. F. CADWELL, Cashier,

First National Bank, Elliott

# Seed Corn Prices



## ALL EARLY PICKED SEED

90 Day Red Cap, best yielder, Ear or Shelled -----	\$ 4.00
90 Day Minnesota Yellow -----	\$ 4.50
Silvermine, white Ear -----	\$ 5.00
Silvermine, white, Shelled and Graded -----	\$ 5.00
Reid's Improved, grown from single ear tested for ten years either Ear or Shelled and Graded -----	\$ 5.00
Home Grown Red Clover Seed -----	\$20.00

If these prices seem high to you please read again what has been done to bring this corn up to its present standard of quality which will remain long after the price is forgotten.

# Alfalfa



**A**LFALFA—This is the wonder crop of all, and no farm should be without it. The size of the farm should determine the number of acres. Spring sowing has proven best for the last few years, and a close observation causes me to realize the one who gets his seed bed in the very best shape and using a light nurse crop, has alfalfa hay in their barn to feed now. I have been a strong agitator of sowing alfalfa seed and have studied this for the last fifteen years and keeping a record of which seed was best adapted to our country here. I have been more successful with Dakota seed and Genuine Grimm than any other and find that our experimental stations report the same. I have this seed in stock and will make as reasonable prices as can be made on seed of as good a quality. I know where my seed comes from, and you can depend on it if it comes through my house.

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Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa,

Dear Sir:—It is a pleasure to add my testimony to your list of satisfied seed customers. I have been a buyer of your seed corn for several years and I have always profited by buying your best corn for seed. I planted eight acres of your Improved Silvermine corn and sold the corn husked out of the field for \$366.90, and have just received my check for this amount today. This makes me \$103.35 per acre. This proves to me there is money in farming high priced land. I appreciate the seed you sold me and can recommend it to anyone wanting the best.

Truly,

R. B. ARTLIP

## Other Farm Seed

**M**EDIUM RED CLOVER seed is the standard and the high price will keep some from sowing. I handle nothing but home seed which is selling at \$20.00. You will have to call or write as price is governed by what I have to pay for these home lots.

**S**WEET CLOVER for pasture and soil building has proven its worth. Every farm should use it. Sow 15 pounds to the acre. It sells at present at \$5.50 to \$6.00 per bushel for good northern grown scarified seed. If your ground is sour, use lime for sweet clover or alfalfa.

**S**UDAN GRASS is the wonder crop of the age. A great drouth resister, quick to grow and fine for pasture. Good fresh seed, clean of weeds, selling for 7 cents per pound.

TIMOTHY is so well known that it is not necessary to say anything more than good home seed at \$3.00 per bushel.

Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa,

Dear Sir:—We want to report to you what a bushel of your best corn did for us last year. It made us 70 bushel of good sound corn per acre—at least 20 bushels per acre more than our corn planted from our own seed. We could have paid you any price for this seed and been ahead by doing so. We have been customers of yours ever since you have been in the seed business and have always prospered and never had to replant crop. We often thought the price was high until we began to husk our crop and then found it was the best deal we made. We recommend that others give your seed corn the same chance.

Truly,

PECK BROTHERS

### NITRAGIN

The original soil inoculator for all kinds of Clovers and all legumes. One bushel size sells for -- \$1.00 Full directions on each can. You cannot afford to sow clover without using Nitragin. We have tried it and know from experience.

J. H. PETTY



# In Confidence

**I**T has been my greatest ambition to build up a seed business that would benefit my customers and help them by careful selection and growing my own seed on selected plats. Since adopting this method the last ten years my seed business has grown until we are sending seed corn into adjoining states. To those who cannot drive to my seed house and see just how corn is cared for, I will assure you that every order has my personal attention, and if not just as I tell you it will not cost you anything. If I can help you to grow as much corn on 40 acres as you have been growing on 50 acres you have ten acres for alfalfa or other crops. Suppose your seed bill is \$35.00 to plant 40 acres and you raise 10 bushels more per acre? This gives you 400 bushels of corn at present price, \$300.00. This leaves for you \$265.00 above your seed investment. What others have done, you can do.

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J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa

Dear Sir:—The dry year of 1916, I got a start of your corn and have kept it up ever since. This corn has always been the first to mature and has always made me money. I consider it has made me fifteen bushels more than any corn I ever planted. Last year, my own seed made me over thirty-five bushels per acre and the corn from your seed made me seventy bushels per acre, the same kind of ground with only 5 days difference in planting in favor of your seed. You can see why I am free to recommend your corn, and it is hard for me to understand why every farmer does not have some of this corn that will produce more bushels per acre of good sound corn. Will be glad to tell my experiences how it has made me money.

Respectfully,

O. B. PLOGHOFF

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Elliott, Iowa, January 17, 1927

To Whom It May Concern:

In this Twenty-sixth Anniversary catalogue of Mr. J. H. Petty, I asked him the permission to say a word in his behalf. Mr. Petty has devoted his time and energy throughout the past twenty-six years, not with the sole thought of gain from a money view-point, but more with the idea of doing real service to the country in the way of raising more and better corn. He has succeeded in a large way. He has bred a type of corn that is second to none. It is a corn that will make the farmer money and many of them are taking advantage of it from year to year. I want to congratulate Mr. Petty for his untiring efforts in performing a real service for agriculture in producing pure seed for the farmer.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. STARR

# Testimonials

Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa,

I wish to add my testimony to the fact that your ideas along the line of corn improvement has benefitted this neighborhood to the extent of thousands of dollars. I can say that I have planted your seed and have never been disappointed in stand or yield. I cheerfully recommend Mr. Petty to the public as a man who can and will furnish the best seed, price considered, of any seed house in Iowa.

Respectfully,  
W. L. DeWITT

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Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott Iowa,

It is with pleasure that I write this about your seed business. I have showed corn at every contest you have had and received great benefits by doing so. I have furnished you seed from my farm for a number of years and know it takes the best to satisfy you. I can see that corn has been greatly improved since I first began several years ago. I can surely recommend your seed business.

Respectfully,  
S. D. SHIRES

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Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa,

Dear Sir:—The four bushels of your corn I bought last year was planted on 28 acres, and I got a splendid stand. The corn made me 80 bushels per acre good corn, and the best corn I ever raised since I have been farming. Your corn is all right; will make any man money who plants it. He could pay \$20.00 per bushel for such seed and make money.

Respectfully

C. E. THOMPSON

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Elliott, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa

Dear Sir:—You wanted to know what your seed corn had been doing for me. I have been a user of your corn for eight years, buying from thirty to forty bushels each year. I have always had a splendid crop of corn and of the very best quality. The yield has always been good and I have raised as high as 90 bushels per acre. I consider the buying my seed corn of you one of the best propositions I make. I can cheerfully recommend your way of doing business and it has proven a benefit for building up this community.

W. A. WESTOVER, Mgr. Wm Gardner Ranch

# Testimonials

Oakland, Iowa, January 12, 1927

Dear Mr. Petty:—I have used your seed corn for the last ten years. It has proved far superior to any corn that I have ever raised both as to yield and quality. I have raised from 150 to 450 acres of corn each year. Your corn will out yield any other seed I have planted at least 10 bushels per acre under the same conditions. I do not think anyone can speak too high of Petty's corn. I will need some seed corn this year.

Yours truly,

W. I. CLARK

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Mortons Mill, Iowa

J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa

Dear Sir:—I just write to tell you what that \$5.00 bushel of corn did for me. I never thought there was so much to all this talk you seed men and papers have been giving us about breeding up corn. I must say since I planted that there is as much to breeding up corn for improvement as there is in breeding up stock. I started to tell you what it did for me—I had fourteen acres of sod land and thought I would see if there was anything to corn talk. I had picked several bushels of choice seed that I called extra good seed, so I went to work and picked out one bushel of the very best I had. I was going to show PETTY that I had some good corn. I planted your corn on one side of the piece and finished with my best seed. Will have to admit that your corn came out in the lead; it seemed like it was stronger right from the time it come up and was strong all through the season and matured fully 10 days earlier than my Reid's Corn, and that was not all, it made 10 bushels per acre more corn. I want to get over to Elliott for more corn this spring. I had a good Seed Corn Sale from the corn I raised from the bushel I got of you. Yes sir, the SEED makes a big difference. Must close.

Respectfully

F. W. JARBOE

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Elliott, Iowa

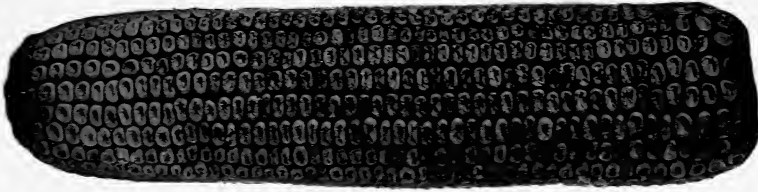
J. H. Petty, Elliott, Iowa

Dear Sir:—For the last twenty-four years I have been a close observer of your seed corn business in Elliott. It has helped me and done wonders for the community. We are all raising more bushels of corn of more quality per acre. I can recommend your way of saving seed, and know that seed sent out by you means dollars to whoever plants it.

Respectfully,

O. D. STONE





## DOES IT PAY TO PLANT THE BEST?



NEVER bought anything cheap but later I found I had just what I bought.

This question is often asked, not so often now as a few years ago, because we have begun to realize by the success of those who use the very BEST at all times, and this makes the results so visible that it should not be a question longer.

People are slow to realize that the same laws applied to the animal kingdom also apply to the vegetable kingdom. No one today would say but what the fine stock men of years ago who stood almost lone handed when they were building up an industry that has meant thousands of dollars to every community, that their efforts were in vain. Every enterprise of this kind deserves great credit, as we owe them a debt that never can be paid by saying nice things about them now. No enterprise will stand alone; it requires an effort to keep it going.

J. H. PETTY,  
Elliott, Iowa.

D. N. Shoemaker

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY  
Horticulture

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



## FIELD SEEDS

**N**Y Field Seeds are the "better kind" and are as big dividend payers as my Pure Bred Seed Corn—and all my customer friends know what that means.

J. H. PETTY,  
Elliott, Iowa.

